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2013-01-23

## Xavier University Newswire

Xavier University (Cincinnati, Ohio)

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Never fear - Police Notes are back and ready to make you laugh. Ed Morley has the scoop on this week's events.

See **CAMPUS NEWS** | Page 4



Active Minds is the club feature this week, and Hollis Conners has all the details inside.

See **CAMPUS NEWS** | Page 2

# SGA TICKETS ANNOUNCED

January 23, 2013

Volume XCVIII  
Issue 16

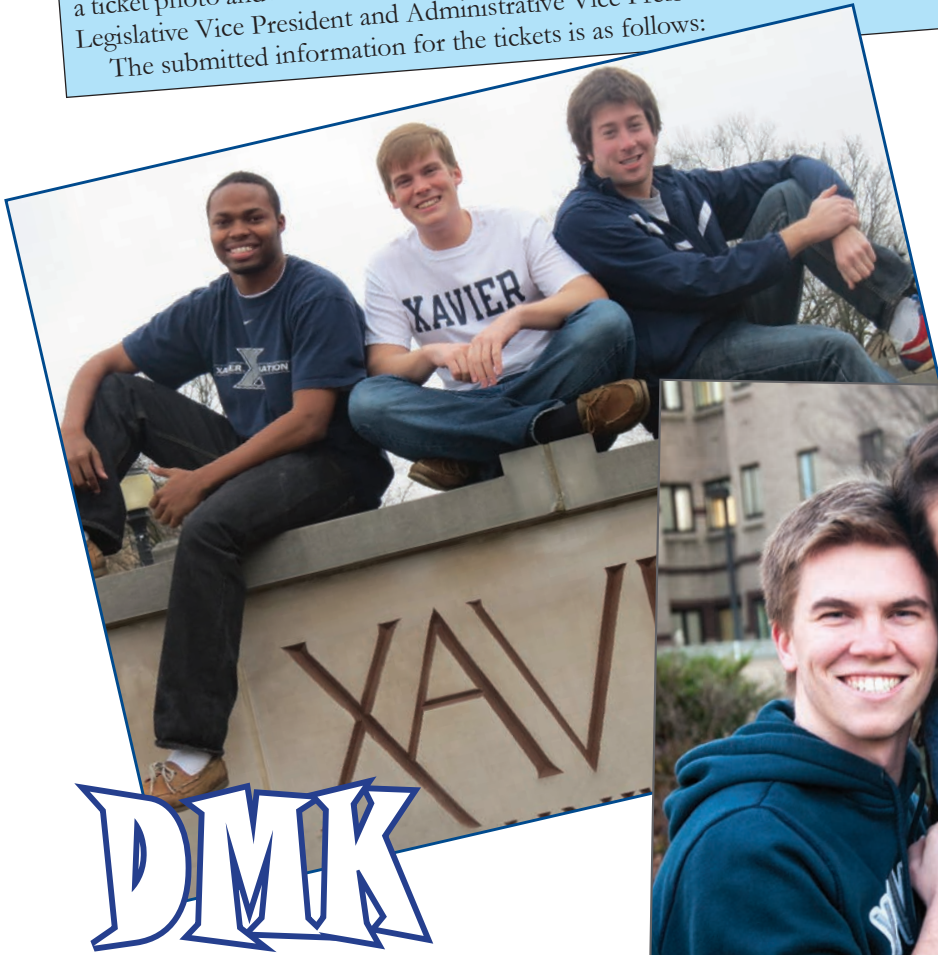
Three tickets for the executive positions for the Student Government Association have fulfilled the requirements and have been approved by the Board of Elections for this year's election.

The Board of Elections has opted to extend this year's campaign period so that public campaigning will begin at 10 a.m. on Feb. 3 and will end at the close of polls on Feb. 14. This extension, according to Board of Elections chair senior Brock McMorrin, stemmed from the re-vamp of the elections code that happened last semester with the addition of Board of Elections sponsored events and ticket-hosted events. The outdoor campaigning is still limited to two days.

In order to be eligible to run for executive, potential tickets have several requirements they need to fill. All candidates on every ticket must be in good academic and social standing with the university. They must also turn in a nominating petition with 300 signatures of current Xavier students, a ticket questionnaire, a ticket photo and meet with the Board of Elections by a submission deadline. The candidate for President must have completed three semesters at Xavier while Legislative Vice President and Administrative Vice President must have completed one semester at Xavier.

The submitted information for the tickets is as follows:

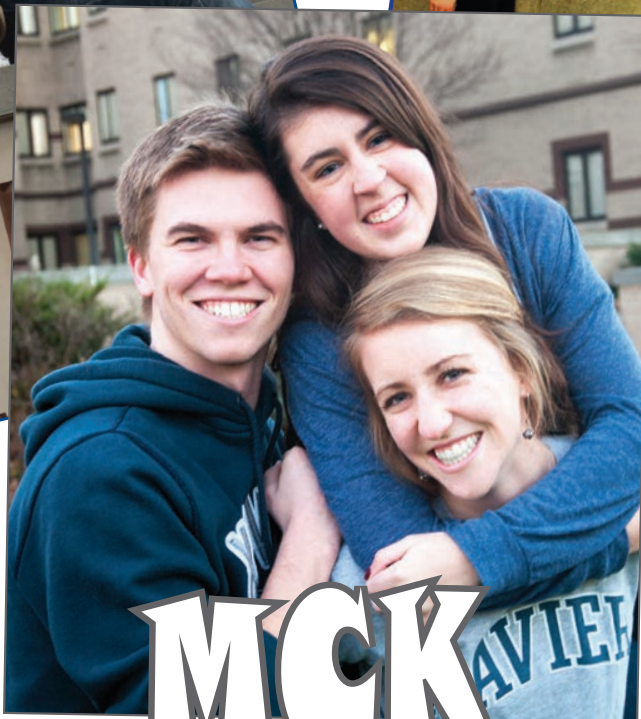
BY MOLLY BOES  
Managing Editor



**DMK**

**President:** sophomore Drew Dziedzic  
**Legislative Vice President:** junior Markus Lasky  
**Administrative Vice President:** junior Keenan Collins

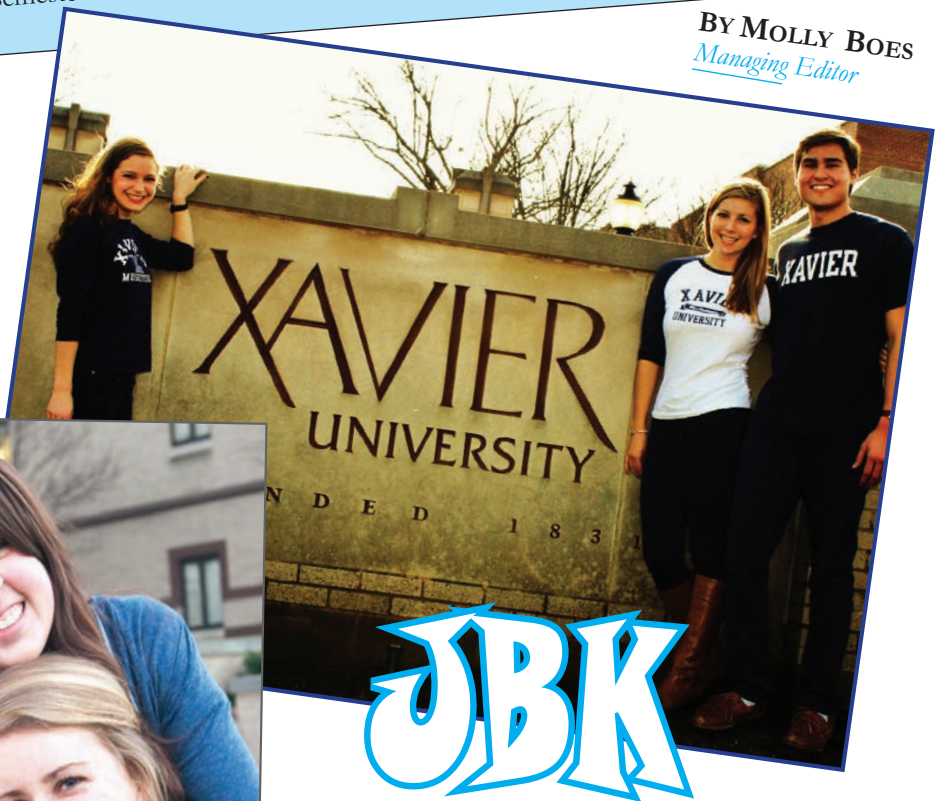
**If you could change one thing about Xavier, what would it be and how would you accomplish it?** "Xavier is a special place. Over 4,000 students call this place 'home.' This home provides a sense of community, belongingness and a new family for all of us. However, there is one major change that we think will enhance this 'home experience': improving Campus Life. Some major campus-wide services need to be examined and improved. We want to improve the rates of laundry so that each student pays a set fee built into their tuition and are allowed unlimited swipes for laundry, and we want to change the appeals process for room damages to make it more fair. Our idea for making dining more convenient is by having prepared 'To-Go' lunches in the Hoff Dining Commons. Finally, we want to expand X-Cash to Xavier's most popular hotspots including Dana Gardens and Stone's Lanes so that students can use their All Card at these locations."



**MCK**

**President:** junior Matt Morefield  
**Legislative Vice President:** sophomore Colleen Reynolds  
**Administrative Vice President:** junior Kelsey McCarty

**If you could change one thing about Xavier, what would it be and how would you accomplish it?** "One thing we would work to change at Xavier is to help students feel as if their concerns and issues can be discussed and addressed. Every student has a different experience at Xavier, and currently we feel there is too much of a gap between the students and the administrators could address the issues they have. To decrease and eliminate this gap, we want to bridge communication between the administration and the students. We would first do this by making ourselves approachable and accessible to the students. The SGA Executives have a duty to the students to represent them and their concerns. We would remain active and visible within the student body and work to make ourselves available so that the students could come to us to tell us their great ideas for campus or about something they experienced and want to bring to the administration to make a change. One way we can help ourselves be seen as approachable is by keeping the students informed. We want to keep the student body constantly updated on our mission. By continuously communicating with the students, we would hope that they would see that we are students just as well and therefore feel as if they could approach us."



**JBK**

**President:** junior Joe Jabour  
**Legislative Vice President:** junior Breanna Lynch  
**Administrative Vice President:** junior Katie Keller

**If you could change one thing about Xavier, what would it be and how would you accomplish it?** "We would change how students use winter break. Students have four weeks off to relax and spend time with family and friends, but what if instead of going back to class so soon we developed a Winter Term where students would have the option to study abroad and earn course credit? We have always been interested in how students can get more out of winter break and take advantage of our time off. This Winter Term during the month of January would allow students to complete a self-directed educational project of their choice. This would be an optional way to bridge the fall and spring semesters. Faculty and students would be able to participate in intensive exploration of unique subjects in nontraditional ways. This could include on campus studies, study abroad trips, internships or independent studies. We think many students would be interested in this great alternative to get more out of Xavier's winter break. To enact this change we have been in contact with Provost Chadwick and the administration. We will be looking into what other universities are doing for winter term and communicating with our Study Abroad Office at Xavier."

Club Spotlight: Active Minds seeks to change mental health stigma at XU

BY HOLLIS CONNERS  
Staff Writer

There is a group of students on campus working to “change the conversation about mental health.”

The student-led organization known as Active Minds is working towards students spreading understanding about mental health towards Xavier students.

The group wants to change perspectives on mental health by educating and hosting events that raise awareness about certain topics relating to mental health, such as suicide prevention and stress relief.

“We understand that people don’t necessarily like to talk about mental health,” President Kaela Allton said.

“There is a stigma surrounding mental health, which becomes very problematic when someone is suicidal and doesn’t tell anyone.”

Meetings consist of discussing different types of mental illnesses, playing games and watching videos that all pertain to mental health in order to educate those who attend meetings.

They tend to focus on stress relief because stress is a major factor that is behind suicide, another main topic they focus on.

Active Minds has a number of goals for the upcoming semester. The main goal is to always increase awareness and membership.

They also want members to become more engaged in activities.

Active Minds is especially excited for two major events coming up. National Eating Disorder Week begins March 11, which is co-hosted by Student Health Advisory Council and SAC.

National Stress Out Week takes place the week of April 14.

Active Minds will host a number of activities to ease students’ stress.

If any student wants to join, meetings take place at 8:00 p.m. on Wednesdays. The meeting room alternates weekly between GSC 214 and GSC 330.

Allton believes it is worth con-

sidering joining the group.

“I think it’s important for students to understand mental illnesses,” Allton said. “They are a very prevalent and misunderstood

aspect of society.”

“A person is not considered weak if they struggle with a physical illness like cancer. Therefore a person should not be considered


weak if they struggle with a mental illness like depression [either],” Allton said.



Sophomores Colleen Corvin, Kaela Allton and Stephanie Fiorelli, and senior Stanzi Littlefield at the Active Minds club booth on Club Day on the Yard 2012.

Photo courtesy of Xavier Student Involvement

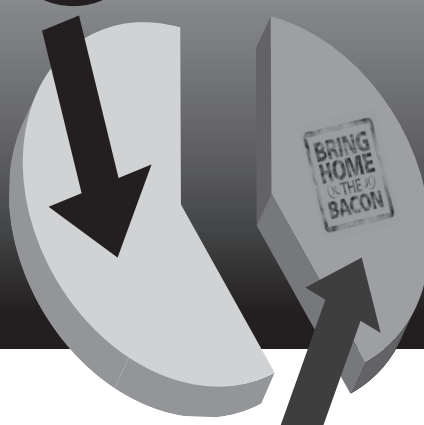
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## CORRECTIONS



The *NewsWire* strives to keep the integrity and honor of all in the articles we publish.

In an effort to better the paper, please tell us if you find corrections that need to be made.

We appreciate your help in making the *NewsWire* a better newspaper.

E-mail us at [newswire@xavier.edu](mailto:newswire@xavier.edu) or call us at 513-745-3607.

## SGA appoints new senators and SAC members for 2013

By **JENNY MENDOZA**  
*Campus News Editor*

Three new senators have been elected to the Student Government Association (SGA) for the 2013-2014 academic year.

Olivia Capannari is a first-year student who is majoring in business undecided and minoring in environmental studies.

Billy Kissel is a junior, majoring in marketing.

Misha Balkowiec, also a junior, is a double major in finance and political science.

Senate has already approved Capannari and Kissel; Balkowiec will be voted in next Monday.

New members of the Student Activities Council (SAC) will also be announced next week.

These new positions are available because current members who are seniors are

going to be graduating in the spring and need to be replaced.

Additionally, they will replace any current board members or senators who are stepping down from their positions for the next academic year.

All new senators and SAC members will be officially announced next week.

**Jenny Mendoza, News Editor**  
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Photo courtesy of [xavier.edu/sga](http://xavier.edu/sga)

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# Breaking the silence



Newswire photos by Andrew Matsushita

As part of Martin Luther King, Jr., week, students were given the chance to write any insulting words that somebody had used against them in the past onto the Wall of Expression (above left) between 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. on Wednesday. This wall was then broken (above right) and then burned (below).



## POLICE NOTES

**Jan. 18, 9:27 p.m.** – A subject was cited for underage consumption of alcohol on University Drive. He was observed being carried by several friends.

**Jan. 20 2:11 p.m.** – Physical Plant found damage to the drivers' mirrors on three cars parked in the A lot.

**Jan. 19, 2:41 a.m.** – A student was treated by Cincinnati Fire and Rescue for alcohol intoxication. The student will face internal discipline.

**Jan. 21, 12:58 a.m.** – A student who was observed urinating in the C6 parking lot was cited for underage consumption.

**Jan. 19, 1:13 a.m.** – Several students were reported to be harassing other students who were walking through the parking lot of the Village Apartments.

**Jan. 21, 1:43 a.m.** – Three students were cited for possession of marijuana when they were observed smoking from a pipe on Xavier Yard in front of Kuhlman Hall.

**Jan. 19, 1:31 p.m.** – Two students were warned about skateboarding in the Smith Hall lot. One skateboarder then lost control and ran into a parked car.

**Jan. 20, 12:17 a.m.** – A student was cited for underage consumption after being observed drinking a can of beer near the Elet parking lot.

### NOTE OF THE WEEK

Senior Winter Ball...  
Freshman style.

**Jan. 18, 8:30 p.m. – 1 a.m.** – Several intoxicated students had to be treated by Cincinnati Fire and Rescue at the Senior Winter Ball at Twentieth Century Theater.

## “Not So Common Hour” gives students opportunity to vocalize problems

BY CRIS FREESE  
Staff Writer

Residence Life, the Academic Advising Center (AAC) and several other departments on campus will begin a series of sessions this semester for students called “The Not So Common Hour.”

In these sessions, students will have the opportunity to interact

with various departments on recurring issues and problems.

“The origin came from advisors in the AAC that realized there are recurring issues that come up in our interactions with the students that could be addressed in a comprehensive way, rather than email reminders or it being in a manual,” AAC Advisor Mollie Labeda said.

Topics to be discussed over

the four sessions include peer and faculty advice on study tips for the new semester and how to communicate and solve problems professionally; preventing plagiarism, research assistance and how to write a great paper; information on studying abroad and information on summer classes and summer career advice.

These sessions will be held

once a month during the common hour at 1:30 p.m. on Mondays, starting Jan. 28 with peer and faculty advice to “Get off on the right foot.” The other dates include Feb. 18, March 11 and April 8.

Other departments participating in these information sessions include the Library staff, Student Life, Financial Aid, Center for International

Education, SGA, the Writing Center and Career Services.

The Academic Advising Center is looking to expand these sessions to be year-round starting next year, while also expanding and adding new topics that address student concerns.

Ed Morley, Campus News Editor  
Phone: 513-516-3125  
Newswire-News@xavier.edu



Newswire photo by Jake Daniels

“The Not So Common Hour” sessions will take place once a month at 1:30 p.m., starting on Jan. 28.

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## Professor profile: Dr. Jerry Braun, Management Information Systems

BY KRIS REILLY  
Staff Writer

Xavier *NewsWire* sat down with Associate Professor of Management Information Systems Dr. Jerry Braun.

*Xavier NewsWire: What classes do you teach?*

**Dr. Jerry Braun:** I have taught introductory information technology classes and web development classes during the summer sessions.

*XN: What drew you to Xavier?*

**JB:** This is my sixth decade at Xavier. I was an undergraduate here in the 1960s, a graduate student in the 1970s and came back



Photo courtesy of Xavier.edu

Dr. Braun has taught Information Systems at XU since the 1980s.

to work at Xavier in the 1980s.

As an undergraduate at Xavier, I was a physics major and then came back as a math major. My three children are also Xavier graduates — two were information systems majors and one majored in montessori education.

*XN: What has been your experience with the increase of technology used in education today?*

**JB:** I have taught and used technology for a long time. As an early adopter of technical tools for teaching, I think technology is a very important aspect in the educational field and that it impacts everyone. Even if it is just a delivery mechanism to move away from a lot of paperwork, it has great potential. I have designed a hybrid blended information systems course that incorporates both online and “face to face” (F2F) learning.

We also offer some completely online courses that are popular with graduate students for the convenience factor.

*XN: What inspired your choice to study information technology?*

**JB:** I was a first generation college student and got a job working at an insurance company as a programmer. I had to take an aptitude test and did well on it and enjoyed the work, so it

started from there.

*XN: Where did you grow up?*

**JB:** I am a Cincinnati native and graduated from Roger Bacon High School. My father owned a local bakery.

*XN: What is something most people do not know about you?*

**JB:** I am a Vietnam War veteran. I was drafted and finished my graduate degrees through the G.I. Bill. Also, I like projects that you can do yourself. Thirty seven years ago, my brother helped me build my own house.

*XN: What do you enjoy to do in your free time?*

**JB:** I really enjoy being outdoors and have worked with the NEXUS community garden and Xavier’s Outdoor Club.

I’m involved with service aspects of the community, and I am very impressed with the students and their commitment to helping others.

As a faculty leader, I’m going on my second Alternative Breaks trip to Florida this year.

I also like to hike, bike and camp. Anything that isn’t sitting and watching TV, except for Xavier basketball games. I’ve been a fan since the 1950s even though I finished my graduate degree at another Cincinnati university.

## MLK Week at XU

BY PAMELA BRAULT  
Staff Writer

Xavier University kicked off “MLK Week 2013” on Jan. 21 with a series of weeklong events to honor the life and message of Martin Luther King, Jr.

Some activities include the viewing of the film “Our Friend, Martin,” an educational, animated film about Martin Luther King, Jr., shown at 6 p.m. on Wednesday in the Kennedy Auditorium and The Ivy Prince

showcase at 7 p.m. on Friday in the Gallagher Student Center Theatre. Tickets cost \$5.

The week of events is sponsored by The Office of Multicultural Affairs, Office of Student Involvement, Center for Interfaith Community Engagement, Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc., Career Services Center and Black Student Association.

The celebration will conclude on Jan. 25.

### MLK Week Events

- **6 p.m., Wednesday, Jan. 23**  
Conaton Learning Commons Kennedy Auditorium—  
Black Student Association Presents: Our Friend Martin.
- **5 p.m., Thursday, Jan. 24**  
Gallagher Student Center Clock Tower Lounge—  
Troop 1500 Troop 1500 unites daughters with mothers who are serving time for serious crimes, giving them a chance to rebuild their broken bonds. Join in dialogue exploring King’s views on social justice issues surrounding women and girls.
- **7 p.m., Friday, Jan. 25**  
Gallagher Student Center Theatre—  
Ivy Prince Boyz II Men: Evolution of a Gentleman The Ivy Prince is a pageant that showcases the talents and contributions of the male students on campus. Tickets cost \$5.

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Student ticket kick-off will be on Jan. 23 in Gallagher Student Center. Limit two tickets per All Card. (\$20-\$25)  
 Student tickets will also be available through the Cintas Center Ticket Office or online at GoXavier.com starting Jan. 24. Limit two tickets per All Card. (\$20-\$25)  
 General public tickets will be available through the Cintas Center Ticket Office or at Ticketmaster.com starting Jan. 28. (\$35)



## Tennis sees strong opening weekend

BY KYLE ISAACS  
Asst. Sports Editor

The Xavier men's and women's tennis teams opened their spring season this past week with mixed results. The men's team dropped their first match to No. 4 Ohio State University last Wednesday but responded with victories over IUPUI and Cleveland State University last weekend. The women's team fell to the University of Louisville on Sunday after opening with win at home versus University of UDM Mercy. After the first week of play, the men's team is 2-1 while the women's team is 1-1.

Following their first loss of the season, the men's team returned home to beat Cleveland State with a match score of 5-2. Three Musketeers won in straight sets, including juniors Jimmy Roebker and Mesa Mei and freshman Zach Mueck. Senior Brandon MacDonald was the last Musketeer to bring home a victory in the singles matches.

The Musketeers swept their next opponent, IUPUI, 7-0 in Indianapolis two days later. Both Mei and Mueck won their No. 2 and No. 3 matches in straight sets, respectively. Freshman Adam Krull picked up his first victory of the spring season in straight sets as well. The Musketeers also swept the doubles matches, leading to an easy victory for Xavier.

"For the men, it was an outstanding week. I couldn't be happier with their performances this past week," head coach Eric Toth said.

The women's team opened spring play last Friday with a 5-2 decision over UDM at home. Despite being swept in the doubles matches, Xavier responded in the singles matches by winning five of six to secure the victory. Each of the Musketeer wins came via straight sets. Seniors Katie Pleiman and Kally Alkire, freshman Alex Brinker, sophomore Daniella Patton and junior Andrea Wolf were victorious in their respective singles matches. Both Brinker and Alkire won their first-set tiebreakers en route to defeats in the No. 2 and No. 4 matches, respectively.

The women hit the road for their second match of the season Sunday, falling to the Cardinals 7-0 for their first loss this spring. The Musketeers were swept in both the singles and doubles matches, though both Pleiman and Wolf took their singles match to the third set before losing. Pleiman won the first set in her match against the 84th ranked player in the nation.

"Despite a shaky start at UDM, we had a good performance for the women," Toth said. "We are already stronger [on the women's team] than we were last year, so you have to like the direction this program is heading."

The men's team hosts UDM this Saturday at the Eastern Hills Indoor Tennis Club. The women's team travels to Richmond, Ky. to face off against Eastern Kentucky University.

# Xavier's Christon strives for success

BY SABRINA BROWN  
Sports Editor

Basketball means something different to every person who has ever picked up a ball. It can be love, money, fame, fun or sometimes just a game.

For Xavier freshman guard Semaj Christon, basketball has



Newswire photo by Andrew Matsushita  
Christon attended Winton Woods, then Brewster Academy.

never been just a game.

Christon knew from a very young age that basketball was a way of life for him, his dream.

"Basketball was a big thing for me growing up. I just try to play hard every day. When it's your dream, you have to get up every day and give it your all," Christon said.

It's a dream that's led him from his hometown of Cincinnati to Brewster Academy and back again, all for the game he loved. And if nothing else has

been definite for the Musketeers so far this season, one thing has been certain: the game loves him back.

Christon averages 14.7 points, 2.1 rebounds and 5.1 assists per game. He's been named Rookie of the Week by the Atlantic 10 for two consecutive weeks and four times overall. He's set a Xavier record for number of assists in a game by a freshman.

Only a few games into his first conference college season,

Christon is a player his teammates can rely on.

"He gives us an easy boost, especially in transition. He's been knocking down his free throws and closing out games for us. He's been really efficient," sophomore guard Dee Davis said.

For Christon, none of his success on the court comes close to the best part about his freshman year.

"A big part of why I came to Xavier was really for my family. I can see them

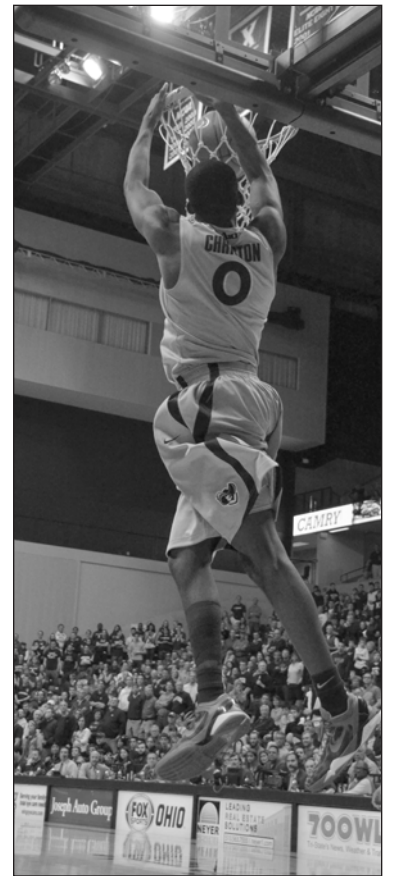
every day. I don't have to get on a flight to see them, and that's important to me," Christon said.

Basketball isn't just a dream for himself; it's a dream his whole family shares for him, a dream that he works hard at day in and day out.

"The thing I love about Semaj is that he's always continuing to get better. He's got big time talent, and I love the way he has been progressing. He comes to practice every single day with a workman-

*About Semaj*

Favorite movie: *Love & Basketball*  
Favorite NBA Team: Miami Heat  
Favorite NBA player: LeBron James  
Pregame Ritual: Sleep before each game



Newswire photo by Andrew Matsushita

Freshman guard Semaj Christon averages 14.7 points per game.

like attitude. His teammates and coaches have a lot of faith in him," head coach Chris Mack said.

For this Xavier freshman, dreams are starting to become reality.

## Men's basketball faces tough road tests

Staff Writer Cris Freese breaks down the keys to Xavier's upcoming roadtrip

BY CRIS FREESE  
Staff Writer

The Musketeers' win on Saturday did more than instill confidence and the usual swagger that comes with conference play. It put Xavier on par with newcomers Butler and VCU at the top of the Atlantic 10 standings, thanks in part to ugly losses by Saint Louis and Temple in the last week.

Xavier (11-6, 4-0) prepares for a tough conference road trip this week with visits to Charlotte (15-3, 3-1) and Saint Joseph's (10-6, 1-2). Both teams will present challenges for head coach Chris Mack's team, particularly on the boards.

The 49ers have gotten off to a strong but unheralded start to the season in their final year in the A-10.

Despite their 15 wins, they do not have a standout victory, and their resume features a blowout loss to the University of Miami and a neutral site loss to Florida State. Saturday's 81-61 loss to Richmond only provides more evidence that Charlotte is a pretender rather than a contender.

But don't tell Xavier that. Two years ago the Musketeers finished 15-1 in conference play with the only loss a 66-62 blemish at Halton Arena to the 49ers. Every road game is difficult in the A-10, and every game has become vitally important for Xavier.

Alan Major's squad doesn't do anything particularly impressive,



Newswire photo by Andrew Matsushita

Xavier senior forward Jeff Robinson scored 10 points against La Salle.

but it gets to the free throw line a lot (almost 24 times a game) and leads the conference in rebounding (averaging 38.9 per game). If there's an Achilles' heel for the Musketeers, it's both of those

statistics.

Their free throw issues have been well documented, as have their size issues on the low block. Look for Charlotte to attack down low in what will be a physical, low scoring game.

Saint Joseph's was picked as a conference favorite early in the season, but a slow start (despite a road victory over Notre Dame) has severely hampered the Hawks. Do not let the six losses fool you, however. Saturday's contest on Hawk Hill will be one of the toughest road environments Xavier will face all season.

The Hawks have a quartet of players averaging in double figures with guards Langston Galloway (15.6) and Carl Jones (15.3) being the go-to scorers.

Junior center C.J. Aiken and junior forward Ronald Roberts, Jr. will also present their unique challenges for Xavier's frontcourt. Aiken is averaging 3.3 blocks per game while Roberts is pulling down almost nine rebounds per contest.

Despite having a strong nucleus of veteran players, the Hawks don't appear all that imposing offensively. They do, however, hoist up 22 three point attempts per game.

Xavier cannot afford to get shredded at the three like they were against Wake Forest and Wofford if they hope to come out of this week's road trip undefeated.

## Coach Mack's Tweet of the week



Head men's basketball coach Chris Mack is considered one of the funniest tweeters in college basketball.

@NewswireSports picked their favorite for the week.

@CoachChrisMack: Man of my word. On the way Xavier fans. DANAS....

Be sure to check out @xaviernewswire and @NewswireSports for all your latest Xavier news.

# Spencer makes Xavier soccer history

*Luke Spencer becomes the first Xavier soccer player to be drafted by the MLS*

BY SABRINA BROWN  
Sports Editor

Luke Spencer, senior forward for the Xavier men's soccer team, became the first Musketeer to ever be picked in the Major League Soccer (MLS) SuperDraft on Thursday afternoon.

Spencer, a Cincinnati native, was picked 23rd in the draft by the New England Revolution, who finished the 2012 season 9-17-8.

This fall, Spencer helped lead the Xavier Musketeers on their longest NCAA tournament run in school history, falling in the second round to Indiana University, who would go on to win the national championship.

Spencer led the Atlantic 10 in scoring this season with 14 goals, nearly half of the 29 scored in his

career as a Musketeer.

At the close of the season, Spencer was named to the A-10 First Team as well as to the NSCAA All-Mid-Atlantic First Team.

Spencer's achievement is

one of many for the Musketeers, who have seen a complete 180 under the direction of head coach Andy Fleming.

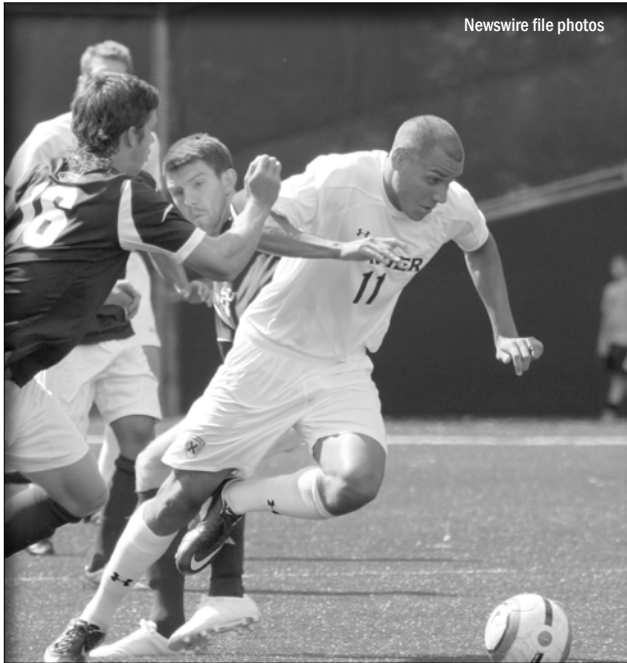
"Being the first soccer player drafted from Xavier shows that these opportunities are going to come to more players and hopefully this is something a few of our players will get to go through next year," Spencer said in an interview.

The New England Revolution also had the first overall selection in the draft, with which they picked up Andrew Farrell, a defender from the University of Louisville.

In addition to Spencer, the Revolution also added forward/midfielder Donnie Smith of Charlotte and goalkeeper Luis Soffner of Indiana in the second round.



Newswire photo by Andrew Matsushita



Newswire file photos

## XU indoor track excels

BY NIKHIL JELAJI  
Staff Writer

The men's and women's track and field teams returned home after their first meet of 2013 at the Gladstein Invite hosted by Indiana University in Bloomington, Ind.

Seven Musketeers finished in the Top 10 overall and eight achieved new personal records.

The men were led by three sixth place finishes, and senior David Gibson earned a career-best in the long jump with an average distance of 6.79 meters.

Junior Nick Kobunski also recorded a personal best in the 800 meter with a time of 1:57.80, and junior Tom Ohlman recorded a new personal best in the 3000 meter with a time of 8:24.94.

The women's side also had a number of big finishers. They were led by junior Madison Riethman, who earned a personal record in the 800 meter with an eighth-place finish with a time of 2:18.26.

Junior Anna Ahlrichs beat her personal best time in the 800 meter with a time of 2:22.51 and freshman Christine Lucas finished her second collegiate race with a time of 1:01.94 in the 400 meter dash.

Freshman Mercedes Oliver contributed a personal record in her first shot put throw as a freshman with a distance of 12.47 meters.

The Musketeers had other notable finishers from the men at the Gladstein Invite.

Junior Spencer Liechty took ten seconds off his personal best in the 5000 meter and placed 12th overall with a time of 15:45.51.

Sophomore Nick Bartram also punched in a personal best in the 600 meter dash with a time of 1:32.16.

The women that went home with career days under their belt included junior Chelsea Hoffmaster, who outran her indoor personal best by 33 seconds in the 5000 meter run with a time of 18:06.78.

Junior Clare Fischer notched a career-record time of 9:57.75 in the 3000 meter run, and her sister Abby Fischer ran the same race with a career-record time of 10:01.77.

The Xavier Musketeers will travel to Bloomington for the second time as they will participate in the Indiana Relays on Jan. 25 and 26.

Sabrina Brown, Sports Editor  
Phone: 745-3607  
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## Women's basketball struggles in A-10 play

BY DANNY O'MALLEY  
Staff Writer

Over the past week, the Xavier women's basketball team played the Butler Bulldogs and then headed down south to play Charlotte. The Musketeers kept both games close, but did not win either game. They lost 71-67 to Butler and 55-67 to Charlotte.

In the matchup against Butler, redshirt senior forward Amber Gray carried the weight of the Musketeers by putting up 20 points. She shot a solid 50 percent from the floor and went 8-for-12 from the line. Gray was one rebound away from a double-double, bringing in nine boards.

Sharpshooting junior guard Ashley Wanninger went 4-for-7 from the field and 3-for-4 from the free throw line, scoring 15 points. She was the second leading scorer for the Musketeers, right behind Gray.

Junior guard Ty O'Neill totaled three assists, the highest individual total for anyone on the Musketeers against Butler.

Defensively, junior guard Shatyra Hawkes had five takeaways in the game and five rebounds. Hawkes also was the third leading scorer, putting up 13 points.

When playing Charlotte the hot hand for Xavier was Wanninger who shot 62 percent from the field and led the team in scoring with 19 points.

Gray and Hawkes played fantastic defense and led the team with two steals each. The Musketeers



Jenna Crittendon

had a total of six takeaways in the matchup.

When it comes to being all over the stat sheet, Gray and Hawkes touched almost every stat column. Gray had eight points, 12 rebounds, five assists, one block and two steals. Hawkes had 15 points, five rebounds, five assists and two steals.

The team ran into some trouble in the second half, shooting 13-32 from the floor, 40.6 percent, while Charlotte was able to shoot 17-32, 53.1 percent.

Charlotte was 6-6 at the free throw line. By contrast, Xavier was 5-8 from the line.

The Musketeers take on Fordham in Cintas Center on Wednesday and then travel to face the Richmond Spiders, on Sunday. Both are conference matchups.

## Newswire Sports Opinion: Xavier AD Mike Bobinski

BY TIM WILMES  
Staff Writer

A 15-year tradition of excellence in athletics was abruptly ended last Wednesday as Xavier University announced athletic director Mike Bobinski's acceptance of the Athletic Department position at Georgia Tech.

Bobinski, who has held the title of AD for 12 years at Xavier, will be filling a position at Georgia Tech which has been vacant since Nov. 5, 2012. He will become just the eighth AD in Georgia Tech history. Although Bobinski will be leaving Xavier shortly, he won't be making the move to Atlanta just yet. In an announcement released on Jan. 16, President Fr. Michael Graham S.J. said that Bobinski will be staying on with the university until March 22.

The Bobinski era should be remembered fondly; Xavier has experienced great success during his tenure as AD (1998-2004, 2006-2013).

Bobinski will almost assuredly be remembered most for the success of the basketball program during his time at the university. The men's team has made the Sweet Sixteen four of the last five years, thrusting Xavier basketball into the elite company of Kansas, Michigan State and North Carolina as one of four programs to accomplish such a feat. Clearly, success like

this has made Xavier a name synonymous with a great basketball pedigree which can be traced back to this XU AD.

Bobinski is also currently in his last year as the chair of the NCAA Basketball Committee. While holding this prestigious title as chair and spokesperson, he has been one of the main people responsible for selecting the NCAA Tournament teams.

The former Xavier AD has had more than just a defining footprint on the NCAA basketball world, however. Under his management, Xavier athletics have thrived, a claim backed by the 97 percent graduation rate of Xavier student athletes. Better yet, this rate has positioned Xavier at No. 11 for student athlete graduation among colleges throughout the nation.

Of course, losing a well-renowned athletic director like Mike Bobinski should leave Xavier Nation saddened for the present time but hopeful for the future. All the same, finding Bobinski's replacement could prove a critical task in maintaining the high expectations of Xavier athletics.

Fr. Graham has assured that this process has already started, and the "University will conduct a confidential search process through the President's Office," although there is no timetable for the selection of a new athletic director.



## XAVIER NEWSWIRE

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# Staff Editorial

## - Know your limits -

Seniors: this is your rebuke.

Non-seniors: this is your warning.

This week, the Police Notes reported that "several intoxicated students had to be treated by Cincinnati Fire and Rescue at the Winter Ball."

Really, seniors? You have had enough time to season your livers for this night and then this happens?

We realize that there were only a handful of you that tried to drink yourselves to death, but that's still pretty pathetic coming from such a veteran group.

It wasn't even like the Twentieth Century Theater had an open bar, which could easily explain unfortunate events such

as the ones from this weekend.

No, these students had to actually try to see some members of Cincinnati's finest.

It's a solid goal if that's what you're looking for, but here at the *Newswire*, we are not really sure if that is the best idea in the world.

Xavier: contrary to popular belief, the *Newswire* is not the fun police (that's Cleneay's finest).

We're just trying to ensure that students maintain a minor semblance of respectability in their behavior in the community.

If only one person had gone off the deep end into the arms of Cincinnati Fire, then this wouldn't be a huge deal.

When one person does something stupid, he/she is an out-

lier. When several people do the same stupid thing, it's a little more noticeable.

It's become clear to us that some of our senior compatriots should have done a little more practicing at Dana's (after they turned 21, of course) before being released into the wild over the weekend.

Perhaps this little event shall bring to light the dangers of not knowing your tolerance.

Non-seniors: when it becomes your turn to dance the night away, try and not get Fire and Rescue involved.

## On the Web:

[www.thexunewswire.com](http://www.thexunewswire.com)

The Xavier *Newswire* is published weekly throughout the school year, except during vacation and final exams, by the students of Xavier University, 3800 Victory Parkway, Cincinnati, OH 45207-2129.

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Advertising inquiries should be directed to the Advertising Manager, as well.

One copy of the Xavier *Newswire*, distributed on campus, is free per person per week. Additional copies are 25 cents.

Xavier University is an academic community committed to equal opportunity for all persons.

## Quick Recap

Weekly opinions in a pithy and probably oversimplified yet digestible way

***Newswire* Staff:**

**If you are going to drink, do it responsibly**

**Matt Coniglio**

**Just tell the truth**

**Peter Adams**

**Rethink your social media habits**

## Want to write for the *Newswire*?

**You can send in an application any time by clicking the link on the "Newswire" tab of the MyXU Portal, or by sending an inquiry to [Newswire@xavier.edu](mailto:Newswire@xavier.edu). We are currently in need of news writers and a business & advertising manager. Please email if interested.**

## Feel strongly about a story?

Don't like either column this week? Do you feel strongly about either side? Write a letter to the editor. We would love to print your opinions. After all, we are the Opinions and Editorials section. Email your letter to [newswire-oped@xavier.edu](mailto:newswire-oped@xavier.edu). Your opinions don't even have to be about this page: They could be about any story you see in the *Newswire* or anything going on on campus.

We look forward to seeing your opinions in our inbox soon.

# Real recognizes real

Unless you've been living under a rock, or are a Notre Dame fan still hiding from public ridicule after their performance in the national title game, you've heard about Heisman runner-up Manti Te'o's girlfriend hoax. After not playing in the national championship game, a story broke that his girlfriend, who died earlier in the season, never actually existed. It seems that the star linebacker's next appearance could easily be on MTV's show *Catfish*.

I'm not debating the legitimacy of Te'o's claim or how risky online dating is, but rather how social media has been anointed by our generation as the ultimate source of factual information.

Of all the people on this campus, I'm probably one of the least qualified people to state this claim.



**PETER ADAMS**  
*Op-Ed Editor*

I have over ten thousand tweets (@PeteXU if you're curious) and very few of them add any value to society. Checking Twitter is usually the first thing I do in the morning.

It's replaced reading the newspaper and watching the news. Any time an important televised event is happening I'm glued to the computer screen checking Twitter.

That being said, there are some consequences to this reliance upon social media. You pick and choose what you want to

hear. You can easily shelter yourself from opinions contrary to your own. However, there's no block or unfollow button in life.

The Westboro Baptist "Church" proves that in life you are never sheltered from opinions, no matter how crazy.

Additionally, the amount and quality of information required for something to be true is much lower online than in real life. Information that in person would be deemed nothing more than heresy is regarded as truth as immediately as it is seen. I've been "catfished" many times because of my reliance upon social media. I didn't fall in love with a girl online, date her for three years, never meet here, find out that she died and not go to her funeral, but I

have been duped into believing that Justin Bieber died. With information so readily available to

**"But it has become harder for people to actually hold a legitimate conversation with another person."**

*Peter Adams, Op-Ed Editor*

the public, more importance is placed on reporting a story first than reporting the facts correctly.

Finally, technology has changed the way people communicate. I'm not going to go in-depth on this topic at the risk of sounding like your seventy-year-old grandfather, but it has become harder for people to actually hold a legitimate conversation with another person.

So with all of these negatives, why am I periodically checking Twitter while writing this article?

Because the positives greatly outweigh the negatives. It has never been easier to connect with other people, find out what's happening across the world and research any topic you could imagine.

Plus, there are ways to combat the negatives. Read articles or follow someone who has a different opinion than you, be skeptical of what you hear and instead of racing to the internet when major news breaks, have a discussion with your friends about what it means and what they think.

Hopefully, these simple steps will lead to you being a more informed social media citizen, or at least prevent you from being in a relationship with a person that never actually existed.

# Liar liar

We've all heard the news that broke last week: Lance Armstrong admitted to taking performance-enhancing substances during all of his seven Tour de France victories from 1999-2005. During his two and a half hour interview with Oprah Winfrey, Armstrong seemingly came clean about some of the allegations that were brought against him by the United States Anti-Doping Agency (USADA). USADA's case against Armstrong was based upon copious amounts of evidence from frozen urine samples, eyewitness testimony and a relatively new scientific technique called the biological passport, which basically can tell someone everything that's been in your body over a certain length of time.

Before I bash Armstrong too much, his effort and vision with the Livestrong Foundation has been instrumental, not only for raising money for cancer research, but also for giving cancer victims hope for their future.

To the casual observer, Armstrong's admission of guilt seems to clear up so much speculation on his cycling career. Yet

there are many points of contention, including his insistence that his comeback in the Tour de France in 2009 and 2010 (where he finished third and 23rd, respectively) was unaided by the use of

continued to lie to the public that had once so adored him.

Lance Armstrong doesn't go to Xavier and is not associated with Xavier in any manner. So why does this matter to us?

**"Wouldn't it make more sense for all of us to admit when something is wrong and take our 20 lashings?"**

*Matt Coniglio, Asst. Op-Ed Editor*

performance enhancing drugs, where the USADA report basically said the exact opposite. I won't bore y'all with the details because the USADA report is long and full of boring technical jargon.

Armstrong also denied reports that stated he offered to make a sizeable donation (read: six figures) to USADA in 2004. In a phone interview with ESPN, former USADA CEO Terry Madden confirmed the allegation that current USADA head man Travis Tygart made on *60 Minutes Sports* several weeks ago.

The important thing to know is this: during his televised confession and apology, Armstrong never actually apologized and

Lying is the death knell. Floyd Landis cheated to win a Tour de France. Mark McGwire cheated to break Major League Baseball's record for home runs hit in a single season, which was later broken by another drug cheat.

People cheat and occasionally get caught. Armstrong has been rightly vilified because he lied for the better part of two decades to everyone that wanted to know. He went out of his way to suppress dissent against him, including ruining the lives of people that spoke out against his doping.

Lying is what gets people in bigger trouble than normal. Look at what happened to Bruce Pearl when he was at Tennessee. See

how far Jim Tressel fell at Ohio State. The NCAA barely cared about the infractions that the two coaches committed while leading their respective programs. Instead, the NCAA ruled with the hand of God because of the lies the two men fed its investigators.

Covering something up is the same thing as lying. It's a good thing we have absolutely no experience doing that at Xavier.

Just kidding, we are pretty much professionals at that around here. Didn't the university get investigated by the Department of Education about something like this?

This is the type of thing that gets people in trouble. It gets corporations and universities in trouble. Wouldn't it make more sense for all of us to admit when something is wrong and take our 20 lashings on the back and get on with life?

We, as a university community, need to urge our leaders to be more forthcoming about issues

that arise on campus so that we, as a university community, can deal with them together. The perceived public relations gain, at first, will always be negated by the retroactive backlash of finding out the truth.

No matter whether you are a collegiate coach dealing with violations within your program, a former American idol and hero cheating in order to win or a university that actively engages in covering up an alleged rape or two, the truth will always come out eventually.



**MATT CONIGLIO**  
*Asst. Op-Ed Editor*

When something goes astray, when you make a mistake, when there's an accident, just come clean. Tell the truth. Not doing so puts you and me into a category with a socio-path like Lance Armstrong.

But if being associated with a lying drug-cheat like Armstrong is your cup of tea,

by all means knock yourself out.

# So Long Solo and open mic night: music in the Clocktower Lounge

**PATRICK PHILLIPS**

*Staff Writer*

On Jan. 17, Xavier Student Activities Council (SAC) hosted an open mic night in the Gallagher Student Center Clocktower Lounge. Headlining the event was So Long Solo, an up-and-coming acoustic duo consisting of Heather and Mark Miller. Offering exotic hot teas, a variety of tunes and a comfortable atmosphere, SAC's So Long Solo open mic night event was a great success.

SAC came in contact with So

Long Solo from the National Association of Campus Activities. Heather and Mark Miller have a great variety of musical talents. They used acoustic guitar, ukulele, flute and percussion. Mark even played the cello as a guitar in their cover of Ingrid Michaelson's "The Way I Am," showing off their wide range of ability.

In between songs, Mark and Heather would share stories of how they met (sometimes awkward, yet always cute) and how music plays such a major role in their life and service. The duo is

planning on a trip to Uganda to do service and shared an original song surrounding the Invisible Children movement.

The event also showcased some amazing Xavier talent. A stand-out was Patrick Mueller whose cover of LMFAO's "Sexy and I Know It" had the audience grooving and laughing the whole way through. Everyone snapped, clapped and sang along the whole night, creating a fun, tight-knit communal experience.

The air of the room was chill, while mild conversations were held by attendees. Everyone enjoyed the herbal teas provided by SAC. The audience was very responsive and supportive of every act during the night, bringing a sense of community between all who attended.

SAC's So Long Solo open mic night was a great night of fun for all who attended. It was an excellent night of music and community, and I feel sorry for anyone who missed out.



Photo by Sarabeth Cuddihy

## Performance opportunities available on & off campus:

1. **24-Hour Theater:** Sign-up outside the Studio Theatre in the Gallagher Center.

2. **Tri-County Players:** *Nuptials*. For more information: [www.tricountyplayers.org/auditions](http://www.tricountyplayers.org/auditions).

3. **Cincinnati Landmark Productions:** *Forever Plaid* and *The Odd Couple*. For more information: [www.cincinnati.landmarkproductions.com](http://www.cincinnati.landmarkproductions.com).

4. **Falcon Theatre:** *Duck Hunter* and *Shoots Angel*. For more information: [www.falcontheater.net](http://www.falcontheater.net).

5. **Greater Hamilton Civic Theatre:** *Little Shop of Horrors*. For more information: [www.ghctplay.com/auditions](http://www.ghctplay.com/auditions).



## THE REVIEW CORNER



### The Vaccines take a step forward with *Come of Age* album

**KYLE GRIM**

*Staff Writer*

The Vaccines burst onto the scene in 2011 with their debut album, *What Did You Expect from the Vaccines?* The band was hailed as saviors of rock 'n' roll, much like their predecessors, The Strokes. The Vaccines employed the same punchy guitar attack and upbeat songs. Their new album, *Come of Age*, marks a change of direction for the band, that features a darker sound and improved lyric writing.

The album begins with a bang, "No Hope," which manages to be upbeat yet somehow sad. The fast, bright attack of the guitars contrast greatly with the lyrics, "Cause when you're young and bored and 24/And don't know who you are no more/There's no hope/And it's time to come of age."

Justin Young expresses the frustrations of any young person who is lost in life and unsure where to go. "Teenage Icon" is a fantastic song, featuring an extremely catchy chorus and guitar riff. The band seems to be grappling with their newfound fame, "I'm no teenage icon/I'm no Frankie Avalon/I'm

nobody's hero." They still think they're a couple of average guys from England, and this song appropriately expresses it.

The darker sound becomes especially evident on "Ghost Town," which features a much deeper, distorted guitar tone.

From this song to the end of the album, The Vaccines trade in their bright sounding guitars for darkness and even some impressive soloing. The band proves that they were not like their idols, The Strokes, and managed to make a second album that expanded upon the foundations laid down in their first album.

*Come of Age* is a fine album, and a natural step forward for the band. The Vaccines are slowly growing up and have the potential to become the leading band in guitar-based rock-n-roll for years to come.

**Newswire Rating:**



**Katherine Colborn, A & E Editor**  
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### *Broken City* is lacking

**GRANT VANCE**

*Staff Writer*

A lack of creativity has progressively become an issue for Hollywood in recent years. Big wig directors are not necessarily putting out bad films, but they are putting out predictable plot lines that we have seen numerous times before without adding anything to the picture to make them stand out.

Sure, there are certainly filmmakers out there providing the audience with new and original ideas, but all too often we get a trailer filled to the brim with expectations, only to be let down by a film that just doesn't stand out. The broken thing about Allen Hugh's *Broken City* isn't that it is a bad film, but there just isn't a whole lot thrown into the pot that makes this soup memorable.

*Broken City* gives us the age-old tale of corruption and power, incorporating all of the traditional tools used to set up the story. Mark Wahlberg's dead-beat private eye/ex-cop Billy Taggart is the typical faulted protagonist with a regrettable history and his crosshairs set on justice. Wahlberg was a good choice for this part and has great chemistry with Russell Crowe's power hungry Mayor Hostetler.

Crowe stands out; however I can't help but think he is better than this film. His role choices have been interesting lately, as he recently starred in Rza's flop *The Man with the Iron Fists*. It seems he hasn't been working to his potential. Hopefully with *Man of Steel* releasing later this year he will reclaim his status as the role of Jor-El.

While *Broken City* has its moments, it is certainly nothing special. It was enjoyable to watch, but I couldn't help but think I would have been better off seeing *Mama* or *The Last Stand*. If debating whether or not to see it, I wouldn't advise you against watching it, but rather wait until you can pick it up at your local, handy dandy Red Box.

**Newswire Rating:**

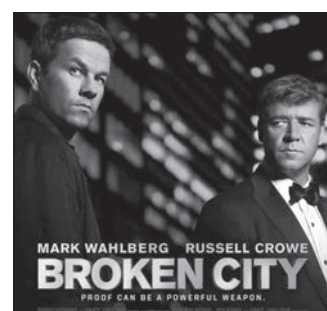


Photo courtesy of thebackbencher.co.uk



Xavier's Athenaeum is hosting a

**Coffeehouse Night**

from 9-11 p.m.

on Jan. 24

in the GSC Atrium.

There will be free

coffee and tea.

**Come to listen, perform or both!**

Performances can include stand-up comedy, musical and vocal performance, poetry recitation and more.

Come and share in the communal creativity!

# Cincy Shakes performs Richard II

**JOHN APPELDORN**  
Copy Editor

The Cincinnati Shakespeare Company is already renowned for their fantastic performances of Shakespeare's plays, as well as for their stage adaptations of other literary works (e.g. Jane Austen's *Sense and Sensibility* and Oscar Wilde's *The Importance of Being Earnest*). Their most recent production of *Richard II*, directed by Brian Isaac Phillips, is once again one of truly exceptional quality and is by far one of their more ambitious endeavors.

This production marks the first in Cincy Shakes' cycle of

Shakespeare's history plays; by the end of the 2014 season, they will have performed the entire Shakespeare canon over their 20 year history.

The play tells the story of young Richard (Brent Vintrup) and his loss of power, family and identity due to his lavish and self-centered rule as the king of 14th century England. As his personal wishes and demands continuously interfere with the needs of the state, the more his ties with nobility and family deteriorate.

The acting is superb, especially because it brings life and vigor to a text that is not usually performed. Brent Vintrup offers-

both a humorous and poignant performance as the troubled Richard, and the dramatic tension onstage between Vintrup and Jim Hopkins as Henry Bolingbroke produces both an exhausting and entertaining intensity. The ensemble is especially dynamic, including seasoned veterans (i.e. Jeremy Dubin and Nick Rose), and season debut performances (Sam Rabinovitz).

The lighting and staging is breathtaking and captures well the intensity of plot, and offers an atmosphere that heightens the mental and emotional chaos of young Richard.

One of the challenges in staging the first of a series of history plays is providing the audience with proper context without bogging them down with a litany of names.

Dr. Niamh O'Leary, professor of English and Shakespeare scholar at Xavier, is impressed with Cincy Shakes' approach to kicking off this first play in the history cycle. It begins with a prologue in the form of a brief narration of the



Jim Hopkins (far left) as Henry Bolingbroke

history of the English kings, with lighting shifting to paintings of the kings themselves on the stage.

"It is a daunting task to take

on all eight history plays, and this prologue did a wonderful job introducing them," O'Leary said. "With respect to the cast, the fact that they will be using the same actors throughout the history cycle gives a great sense of continuity." Cincy Shakes' *Richard II* in its entirety is an incredible production, and kicks off the Shakespeare history play cycle with poise and brilliance.

Performances run through Feb. 3. More information can be found on their website [www.cincyshakes.com](http://www.cincyshakes.com)



From left to right: Jeremy Dubin, Zach Schute, Brent Vintrup, Travis Emery



Brent Vintrup as Richard II

**Newsire Rating:**



## XU's plans for *Taming of the Shrew* in March

**ZACH JULIAN**  
Staff Writer

From the same department that produced *Hairspray* in the fall, the new Theater Department is producing William Shakespeare's *The Taming of the Shrew* as their spring semester show. For those of you who are not familiar with the show, it is the premise for the 1999 movie *Ten Things I Hate About You*. For those of you who are familiar, get ready for a new take on the classical comedy.

The director of *Taming*, Stephen Skiles, gave some insight on the direction for the show. The show is set to take place in the main stage theater, but not just in the theater. Everything will be on the main stage, including the audience.

At the moment, there isn't an actual set design. Only a basic layout exists, all in white. Skiles said that he had a few very good, well

fleshed-out ideas, but he decided to go with just the basics. His idea is to make it a collaborative effort in every aspect imaginable. The costumes, time period, specific settings, set design and lighting are all part of a collaboration with everyone involved with the show.

The only real decision that has been reached is that it will be a completely different take on the classical piece, in more ways than

just one. Skiles definitely wants it to be a more contemporary take on the show. Also, some of the characters are being played by the opposite gender, changing the relationships between a few of the characters.

This show will definitely be a new twist on a much loved classic and one that you really can't afford to miss.

Tickets will be available soon, and the show is set to run on March 21-24 in the GSC Main Stage Theater.



Photo courtesy of discountmugs.com

-Paid Advertisement-

What really happened to *The Crucible's* Abigail Williams?



*Abigail*  
1702

By Roberto Aguirre-Sacasa

Jan. 19 - Feb. 17, 2013

Ten years have passed since the witch trials, but Abigail still searches for redemption in this suspense-filled world premiere.

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artswave

# Fun wintry recipes for the COLD WEATHER



**MOLLY BOES**  
*Managing Editor*

Regardless of the infamous fluctuating Ohio weather, the fact still stands that it is winter and we are bound to have more cold days ahead. On top of the cold weather, classes have started up again, meaning that, on top of trying to stay warm, plenty of students are looking for ways to procrastinate. What better way is there to put off homework and warm up than trying some new wintry recipes? Need more incentive to try new recipes than warmth and procrastination? Food is also a great medium through which to make new friends or strengthen old friendships.

## Sweet Tortilla Snowflakes

Who doesn't like making paper snowflakes? The only problem with paper snowflakes is finding something to do with them after they are made. Why not eliminate this problem by making them edible?

All you will need for your sweet, edible snowflakes is:

- 6 flour tortillas
- Canola or vegetable oil for baking
- Confectioners' sugar
- Edible glitter (optional)

Directions:

Heat the oven to 400 degrees. Warm the tortillas for about 15 seconds in the microwave.

Fold tortillas in half once and then in half again, leaving you with a shape that resembles a thick wedge. Using scissors (preferably clean ones) cut various shapes out of the edges as you would if you were making a paper snowflake. Unfold the tortillas.

Lightly brush the tops of the snowflakes with canola oil or vegetable oil and place them on a cookie sheet with some space in between.

Bake them until lightly browned and crisp (roughly four minutes). Sift confectioners' sugar on the snowflakes while warm. For extra sparkles add a bit of edible glitter. Makes six.

## Caramel Apple Cider

Interested in expanding your hot beverage options to items besides coffee, tea and hot chocolate? Like apples and caramel? Try this recipe for caramel apple cider.

All you will need for your hot apple beverage is:

Cider

- ¼ cup heavy cream
- ¼ cup brown sugar
- 3 cups apple cider
- ½ cup water

Caramel Whipped Cream

- ½ cup heavy cream
- 1 tablespoon brown sugar

Directions for cider:

Bring the cream and brown sugar to a boil in a medium sauce pan over medium heat. Stir in cider and water and raise heat to medium high, heating just until the cider begins to steam (roughly four minutes).

Divide among four mugs, top each with two tablespoons of caramel whipped cream and serve immediately.

Directions for caramel whipped cream:

In a small chilled bowl, whip the heavy cream with the brown sugar until soft peaks form.

## Fudge

Having a chocolate craving? Make some fudge.

What you will need for this chocolate deliciousness:

- 1 can (14 ounces) sweetened condensed milk
- 3 cups (1 pound) chopped chocolate or semi-sweet chocolate chips
- ¼ teaspoon salt
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract
- ½ cup finely chopped nuts

Directions:

Heat condensed milk in a small saucepan until hot. Remove from heat and add vanilla, salt and chocolate. Stir until chocolate melts.

Stir in nuts and pour into a 9x9 pan fitted with waxed or parchment paper. Cover tightly and refrigerate until firm (roughly an hour).

Turn onto a cutting board and cut into squares.

## Hot Chocolate Mug Cakes

Do you like chocolate cake? Do you like marshmallows? Do you not want to cut a cake topped with marshmallow crème into individual servings? This is the right recipe for you.

All you will need for your hot chocolate cakes are:

- Cooking spray
- Favorite chocolate cake batter
- Marshmallow crème

Directions:

Coat the insides of oven safe mugs with cooking spray and fill the mugs halfway with chocolate cake batter (following instructions on the box).

Follow the cupcake baking instructions on the cake mix package. The cakes are done when a toothpick inserted into the center of one comes out clean. Allow cakes to cool for about 15 minutes.

Top each mug with a generous serving of marshmallow crème and serve with a spoon. Makes 12.



## Hot Vanilla Recipe

Not feeling the typical hot chocolate? Why not try hot vanilla?

All you will need for your hot vanilla is:

- ½ cup of whipping cream
- 1 tablespoon of chocolate syrup
- Dash of cinnamon
- 1 cup of milk (per hot vanilla)
- 2 teaspoons of sugar (per hot vanilla)
- ½ teaspoon of vanilla extract (per hot vanilla)

Directions:

Start with the topping. In a medium bowl, whip ½ cup of whipping cream until it is frothy. Add one tablespoon of chocolate syrup and a dash of cinnamon, then continue to whip the mixture until everything is well blended and peaks form. Makes enough to top around six drinks.

For each hot vanilla, microwave one cup of milk and two teaspoons of sugar in a mug for 90 seconds. Stir in ½ teaspoon of vanilla extract. Top with a dollop of chocolate cream, a drizzle of chocolate syrup and a dash of cinnamon.



Photos courtesy of [www.spoonful.com](http://www.spoonful.com)

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